

Message Text

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53

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-14 DRC-01 /135 W

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R 161148Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5898

INFO AMCONSUL BELFAST VIA POUCH

AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L DUBLIN 1107

E. O. 11652: GDS EXEMPT

TAGS: PINS UK NI

SUBJECT: ULSTER DISCUSSION UK WITHDRAWAL INTENSIFIES

FOLLOWING TRANSMITTED ON BEHALF CONGEN BELFAST:

1. TYPICAL OF INTENSIFYING DISCUSSION IN ULSTER OF POSSIBILITY
BRITAIN WITHDRAWING FROM NORTHERN IRELAND INVOLVEMENT WAS LONG
CONVERSATION AUDITED BY CONSUL GENERAL AUGUST 15. PARTICIPANTS
WERE PARLIAMENTARY UNDERSECRETARY LORD DONALDSON, A SENIOR CIVIL
SERVANT STORMONT AND TWO FORMER DEPUTIES ALLIANCE PARTY.

2. NORTHERN IRISH INSISTENT THAT ANY SUCCESS FORTHCOMING CON-
STITUTIONAL CONVENTION CONTINGENT UPON BRITAIN CLARIFYING OPTIONS
AND INTENTIONS. IF UK INTENDS WITHDRAW SHOULD CONVENTION FAIL
THEN THIS INTENTION SHOULD BE STATED CLEARLY NOW. ULSTERMEN
ALSO AGREED THAT WHILE INTEGRATION PROBABLY BEST SOLUTION,
BRITAIN DID NOT RPT NOT WANT IT AND IT BECOMING LESS APPEALING
TO SOME NORTHERN IRISH PROTESTANTS. THEY ALSO EXPRESSED PREFER-
ENCE FOR DIRECT RULE WITH INCREASED REPRESENTATION WESTMINSTER
OVER DEVOLUTION. SOME OF THESE VIEWS AND ATTITUDES REFLECTED
EARLIER CONVERSATION WITH MORE RADICAL PROTESTANT LEADER JOHN
TAYLOR (SEPTEL.

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EM LORD DONALDSON STATED BRITISH DID NOT RPT NOT WANT WITHDRAW

COMPLETELY FROM NORTHERN IRELAND BUT DEFINITELY WANTED ARMY OUT. HE STATED BELIEF CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION GREAT STEP FORWARD AND THAT BRITISH INTENTIONS CLEARLY EXPRESSED IN CONSTITUTION WHITE PAPER. HE SHOWED CONCERN AND SOME SURPRISE OVER INTENSITY NORTHERN IRISH VIEWS HOWEVER AND STATED HE WOULD DISCUSS THEM WITH SECSTATE REES AND OTHERS.

4. THIS CONVERSATION ILLUSTRATIVE OF GROWING ATTENTION BEING GIVEN BY NORTHERN IRISH IN PRESS AND PRIVATELY TO POSSIBILITY BRITISH WITHDRAWAL FORESEEABLE FUTURE. EARLY INDICATIONS ARE THAT MODERATES IN GENERAL ARE DEEPLY CONCERNED WHILE MORE EXTREME LEADERS BEGINNING CONSIDER TACTICS BY WHICH ADVANTAGES COULD BE REALIZED. SIGNED SPICER.

MOORE

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Message Attributes

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30 JUN 2005

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